

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is requested. Claims 1-20 remain in the application. Independent claims 1, 5, 10 and 14 have been amended to define the invention more clearly. Dependent claims 4, 7-9, 11, 12, 15 and 16 have been amended to correct formal errors and to conform to the amendments to the respective independent claims. Dependent claims 3, 6, 10, 13, 19 and 20 have been amended into independent form.

At the outset, the applicants and the assignee are pleased to note that the Examiner considered claims 3, 6, 10-13, 19 and 20 as being directed to patentable subject matter. The Examiner indicated that these claims would be allowed if amended or rewritten into independent form with all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Allowable claim 3 had depended from claim 2, which in turn depended from claim 1.

Claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form with all of the limitations of claims 1 and 2. Accordingly, amended claim 3 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Allowable claim 6 had depended directly from independent claim 5. Claim 6 has been amended into independent form with all of the limitations of claim 5. Hence, claim 6 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Allowable claim 10 had depended from claim 9, which depended from claim 8 and which in turn depended from independent claim 5. Claim 10 has been amended into independent form with all of the limitations of claims 5, 8 and 9. Hence, amended claim 10 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Allowable claim 13 had depended from claim 9, which depended from claim 8 and which in turn depended from independent claim 5. Claim 13 has been amended into independent form with all of the limitations of claims 5, 8 and 9.

Allowable dependent claims 19 and 20 each had depended from independent claim 14. Claims 19 and 20 each have been amended into independent form with all of the limitations of claim 14. Hence, amended claims 19 and 20 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9 and 14-18 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,392,537 to Tazumi et al. The Examiner identified aspects of the Tazumi et al. reference that were considered to correspond to the original rejected claims.

The Tazumi et al. reference relates to a remote monitoring system for automatic door systems. The Tazumi et al. monitoring system sends information to a maintenance station when a failure is found in an automatic door system. The information sent to the maintenance station identifies the door system and the malfunction or broken part. The Tazumi et al. reference fails to disclose the administration center. Accordingly, the Tazumi et al. reference does not suggest a method of "allowing a number of automatic door apparatuses to send the respective operating information to the administration center along with apparatus identification information attached thereto; classifying by the administration center, their respective operating information in accordance with the apparatus identification information; storing classified information at the administration center; and outputting from the administration center the stored operating information meeting a required condition regarding the classification of the information." Accordingly,

the Tazumi et al. reference does not teach or suggest the invention set forth in amended independent claim 1 and its dependent claims 2 and 4. Similarly, the Tazumi et al. reference does not suggest a system with "an administration center including a receiver for receiving the sent operating information and the identification information from each automatic door apparatus, a classifier for classifying the operating information in accordance with the apparatus identification information, and a storage for storing the operating information to output the stored operating information in response to a request." Without this administration center set forth in amended claim 5, Tazumi et al. cannot possibly teach or suggest the system of amended claim 5 and its dependent claims 7-9.

Claim 14 has been amended to clarify that operating information is extracted "repeatedly at intervals" and is stored "time-sequentially." Nothing in Tazumi et al. suggests "an operating information extractor which extracts repeatedly at intervals, from the controller, operating information of the automatic door apparatus including sensor state information indicating a detected state of the sensor and door state information indicating an open/close control state of the door" and "a memory device which time-sequentially stores the operating information repeatedly extracted by the extractor." Accordingly, it is submitted that amended independent claim 14 and its dependent claims 16-18 are not taught nor suggested by Tazumi et al.

In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, it is submitted that all of the claims remaining in the application are directed to patentable subject matter and allowance is solicited. The Examiner is urged to contact applicants attorney at the number

below to expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald E. Hespos".

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